

REMARKS

The examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 5-7 and has objected to claim 4. The office action indicates that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has added the elements of claim 4 and the intervening claims to claim 1 and has canceled claims 2-4. Claims 5-7 now depend on claim 1 (which has the elements of claim 4). Accordingly, Applicant believes these claims are now in condition for allowance, as they all include the elements of allowed claim 4.

The application has been amended to correct minor informalities, to further distinguish the application over the prior art, and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention so as to place the application, as a whole, into a prima facie condition for allowance.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that its claims 1 and 5-7 are in condition for allowance at this time, patentably distinguishing over the cited prior art. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and passage to allowance are respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned attorney at (515) 288-2500 to discuss the claims in an effort to reach a mutual agreement with respect to claim limitations in the present application which will be effective to define the patentable subject matter if the present claims are not deemed to be adequate for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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